

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 AF-10

ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-11 TRSE-00 /090 W

-----045825 261946Z /63

R 261600Z JUN 78

FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 700

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONTREAL 1265

FROM USREP DOWNS/ICAO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, ICAO

SUBJECT: ICAO: US RESPONSE TO POLITICIZATION

REF: A. DOWNS/MAYNES LETTER OF 12/13/77

1. ICAO CLUNCIL VOTE TO CHANGE PROCEDURES FOR APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS, REPORTED SEPTEL, APPEARS ILLEGAL AND CONSTITUTES SERIOUS SETBACK IN OUR EFFORTS TO MINIMIZE POLITICIZATION OF ICAO. THIS FOLLOWS AN EARLIER POLITICIZATION OF THE DECEMBER 5, 1977, ELECTION TO AIR NAVIGATION COMMISSION, REPORTED IN THE REFERENCED LETTER. THE PRACTICAL EFFECT OF THE NEW PROCEDURES WILL BE TO STRENGTHEN THE VOICE OF MILITANT THIRD WORLD GROUP IN CHOICE OF NEW DIRECTORS, UNDERCUTTING OUR ATTEMPTS TO HAVE APPOINTMENTS MADE PRIMARILY ON BASIS OF TECHNICAL COMPETENCE. THIS WILL HAVE IMMEDIATE EFFECT IN SELECTION THIS SUMMER OF DIRECTOR OF ICAO'S MOST IMPORTANT BUREAU, AIR NAVIGATION. I FULLY EXPECT THAT THE POLITICAL ACCEPTABILITY TO THE THIRD WORLD OF INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES WILL WEIGHT INORDINATELY IN THE SELECTION PROCESS. I EXPECT THAT THE LONG TERM EFFECTS OF THE JUNE 22 COUNCIL DECISION WILL MANIFEST THEMSELVES BOTH IN INCREASING DISREGARD FOR PROPER PROCEDURES WITHIN THE COUNCIL, AND IN THE DEGRADATION OF THE TECHNICAL COMPETENCE OF THE SECRETARIAT.

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2. I RECOMMEND RECONSIDERATION OF USG POLICY TOWARD ICAO, INCLUDING POSSIBLE RESPONSES USG CAN MAKE FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL DECISION (POSSIBLY INCLUDING A RECLAMA REGARDING EXPANSION OF THE COUNCIL TO 33, AND THE QUESTION OF USE OF US FUNDS FOR PAYMENT OF SALARIES TO DIRECTORS SELECTED UNDER NEW PROCEDURES.)

HARPER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014